



National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Statistical Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather



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David D. Kleweno, Director

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Continued Cool

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending August 15, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. The State’s crops endured well below normal temperatures for most of the week. Averages for the week ranged from 8 degrees below normal in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 6 degrees below normal in four of the State’s districts. Since April 1, only the southwest district now has cumulative growing degree days at or above normal. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.33 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 0.94 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. A reporter in the Thumb summed up most growers sentiments, “Is it really August? Crops were behind to begin with, and these cool temperatures aren’t helping things.” A farmer in the northeast agreed, “Not really a good week. Too cold for growing and too wet to harvest any grain. Pretty much just used up days on the calendar.”

Field Crops

Cool temperatures continued this week, setting record lows in some parts of the State. Precipitation was variable. While most areas in the State reported adequate moisture, the southeast and east central remained dry. **Hay** cutting has slowed due to the cool, wet weather. **Corn** fields were variable and growth was slow because of the lack of heat. In the southeast, late planted corn had not yet begun to tassel. The **soybean** crop continued to advance slowly. Most fields were setting pods. Cyst nematode symptoms were reported in the Thumb. **Sugarbeets** continued to progress. Reports of cercospora leafspot were limited. **Dry beans** looked good but were behind schedule. In the northern Lower Peninsula, fields were setting pods.

Fruit

Apple growers continued harvesting summer apple varieties in the southwest. Necrotic leaf blotch was showing up in Golden Delicious orchards. In the southeast, apples continued to size very well. Most varieties were 2.75 to 3.25 inches in diameter. Harvest of early varieties continued there. Early variety apples were being harvested in the west central. Size and color were excellent. In the southwest, **peach** harvest continued. Size was excellent. Split pits, which were common in early varieties, were becoming rare. In the southeast, peach harvest continued. Early peach harvest started in the west central. Split pits in peaches were a common occurrence this year in the northwest. In the southwest, **plums** have colored and harvest of early European varieties began. In the southeast, plums continued to size well. European plums were beginning to color, with most being around 1.25 inches in diameter. Harvest of plums has started in the west central. In the southwest, Jersey and Rubel **blueberry** harvest has peaked. In the southeast, blueberry harvest was well along, and the crop looked excellent. In the Ridge area, the harvest of early blueberry varieties continued. **Grapes** in the southwest began veraison. In the southeast, grapes continued to size nicely. Some are now at berry touch. Early maturing grapes were beginning to color. In the northwest, grapes were at berry touch in Chardonnay and many other varieties.

Vegetables

Cool temperatures slowed the advancement of vegetable crops across the State. Harvest continued but at a slower pace. **Sweet corn** volume picked up. Growers continued digging early **potatoes**. Processing **tomato** harvest in the southeast was delayed due to the unseasonable temperatures. Statewide, growers continued to scout and treat for diseases in the crop. Harvest of **peppers** and **eggplant** in the southwest was slowed by cool temperatures. **Cucumber** and **zucchini** harvest continued. Some pollination problems were reported in zucchini. **Celery** harvest progressed on schedule. **Cantaloups** continued to color in the southeast, but very little harvest activity was reported. **Pumpkins** had started coloring. **Carrot** harvest was well underway in the southeast. West central growers continued to fight aster leafhopper and cercospora in the crop. **Watermelon** harvest had not yet started in the southwest. Cool temperatures have kept diseases to a minimum in **asparagus**; however, common asparagus beetle pressure was fairly heavy.

Soil moisture for week ending 08/15/04

| Stratum | Very short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Topsoil | 6 | 30 | 60 | 4 |
| Subsoil | 5 | 25 | 68 | 2 |

Crop condition for week ending 08/15/04

| Crop | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| All Hay | 1 | 10 | 33 | 45 | 11 |
| Barley | 3 | 7 | 33 | 37 | 20 |
| Corn | 5 | 13 | 35 | 38 | 9 |
| Dry beans | 5 | 8 | 31 | 43 | 13 |
| Oats | 4 | 11 | 33 | 43 | 9 |
| Pasture | 4 | 13 | 32 | 44 | 7 |
| Soybeans | 4 | 10 | 34 | 44 | 8 |

Crop progress for week ending 08/15/04

| Crop | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| All hay, second cutting | 73 | 70 | 86 | 83 |
| All hay, third cutting | 17 | 10 | 21 | 21 |
| Blueberries, harvested | 85 | 80 | 66 | NA |
| Corn, silked | 80 | 71 | 93 | 94 |
| Corn, dough | 20 | 11 | 10 | 19 |
| Dry beans, blooming | 94 | 80 | 86 | 90 |
| Dry beans, setting pods | 57 | 40 | 49 | 64 |
| Dry beans, turning leaves | 1 | 0 | 1 | NA |
| Oats, turning yellow | 94 | 91 | 100 | 100 |
| Oats, harvested | 41 | 34 | 45 | 71 |
| Peaches, blooming | 42 | 31 | NA | NA |
| Soybeans, blooming | 87 | 82 | 91 | 94 |
| Soybeans, setting pods | 60 | 44 | 66 | 73 |
| Soybeans, turning leaves | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/15/04 ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|---------|-----------------------|---|-------|--------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Station | Temperature | | | Cumulative growing degree days ² | | | Precipitation | | | | | |
| | Maximum | Minimum | Departure from normal | 2004 | 2003 | Normal | This week | Last two weeks | Last four weeks | Since April 1 | Normal | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Since April 1 | For month |
| Ironwood | 73 | 34 | | 1,226 | 1,415 | | 1.18 | 1.42 | 2.33 | 16.39 | | |
| Marquette | 81 | 39 | | 1,140 | 1,384 | | 0.89 | 1.08 | 1.55 | 15.16 | | |
| Stephenson | 83 | 39 | | 1,408 | 1,638 | | 0.16 | 0.21 | 0.48 | 15.64 | | |
| Western UP | 83 | 34 | -7 | 1,237 | 1,443 | 1,409 | 0.94 | 1.17 | 1.98 | 14.43 | 14.35 | 3.69 |
| Cornell | 78 | 40 | | 1,264 | 1,544 | | 1.12 | 3.40 | 3.98 | 15.35 | | |
| Sault St Marie | 75 | 44 | | 1,023 | 1,369 | | 1.22 | 1.23 | 1.49 | 13.64 | | |
| Eastern UP | 78 | 35 | -6 | 1,075 | 1,341 | 1,221 | 0.86 | 1.56 | 1.94 | 13.35 | 13.53 | 3.53 |
| Beulah | 76 | 45 | | 1,474 | 1,583 | | 0.70 | 0.91 | 1.14 | 16.75 | | |
| Lake City | 75 | 38 | | 1,447 | 1,541 | | 0.34 | 0.36 | 0.53 | 14.89 | | |
| Old Mission | 78 | 44 | | 1,362 | 1,553 | | 1.38 | 1.38 | 2.42 | 15.48 | | |
| Pellston | 77 | 37 | | 1,338 | 1,517 | | 1.22 | 1.25 | 1.62 | 11.93 | | |
| Northwest | 78 | 37 | -6 | 1,362 | 1,514 | 1,592 | 0.95 | 1.05 | 1.75 | 14.50 | 12.71 | 3.11 |
| Alpena | 79 | 42 | | 1,386 | 1,500 | | 0.80 | 1.51 | 2.54 | 13.98 | | |
| Houghton Lake | 78 | 36 | | 1,522 | 1,640 | | 0.52 | 0.74 | 0.96 | 14.41 | | |
| Rogers City | 78 | 41 | | 1,366 | 1,548 | | 0.63 | 0.85 | 1.62 | 13.88 | | |
| Northeast | 79 | 36 | -6 | 1,441 | 1,585 | 1,543 | 0.56 | 0.82 | 1.54 | 14.12 | 12.81 | 3.12 |
| Fremont | 79 | 44 | | 1,702 | 1,831 | | 0.33 | 0.51 | 0.60 | 14.94 | | |
| Hart | 78 | 42 | | 1,576 | 1,677 | | 0.46 | 0.48 | 0.66 | 17.02 | | |
| Muskegon | 78 | 48 | | 1,712 | 1,838 | | 0.16 | 1.50 | 1.72 | 18.89 | | |
| West Central | 79 | 41 | -7 | 1,629 | 1,743 | 1,741 | 0.39 | 0.71 | 0.81 | 18.22 | 12.82 | 3.60 |
| Alma | 81 | 44 | | 1,811 | 1,827 | | 0.29 | 0.72 | 1.10 | 17.59 | | |
| Big Rapids | 81 | 43 | | 1,686 | 1,698 | | 0.48 | 0.54 | 0.59 | 16.33 | | |
| Central | 81 | 43 | -7 | 1,763 | 1,756 | 1,812 | 0.33 | 0.70 | 1.11 | 17.23 | 13.79 | 3.64 |
| Bad Axe | 81 | 44 | | 1,631 | 1,589 | | 0.42 | 1.13 | 1.37 | 16.07 | | |
| Pigeon | 81 | 41 | | 1,613 | 1,594 | | 0.49 | 1.09 | 1.15 | 16.44 | | |
| Saginaw | 81 | 43 | | 1,794 | 1,759 | | 0.29 | 0.55 | 0.82 | 14.67 | | |
| Standish | 81 | 44 | | 1,597 | 1,594 | | 0.33 | 0.71 | 1.44 | 15.08 | | |
| East Central | 81 | 40 | -7 | 1,630 | 1,649 | 1,799 | 0.46 | 1.17 | 1.71 | 16.41 | 12.58 | 2.93 |
| Fennville | 81 | 45 | | 1,744 | 1,773 | | 0.19 | 0.87 | 1.45 | 13.71 | | |
| Grand Rapids | 81 | 49 | | 2,020 | 1,870 | | 0.57 | 1.44 | 2.48 | 19.38 | | |
| Holland | 80 | 47 | | 1,827 | 1,811 | | 0.43 | 1.28 | 2.36 | 13.41 | | |
| South Bend, IN | 83 | 48 | | 2,146 | 1,995 | | 1.22 | 2.05 | 3.70 | 18.75 | | |
| Watervliet | 81 | 47 | | 1,916 | 1,822 | | 0.56 | 1.93 | 3.40 | 19.53 | | |
| Southwest | 83 | 32 | -8 | 1,914 | 1,864 | 1,955 | 0.49 | 1.38 | 2.51 | 17.85 | 14.47 | 3.18 |
| Belding | 80 | 48 | | 1,815 | 1,779 | | 0.34 | 1.27 | 2.06 | 19.66 | | |
| Coldwater | 80 | 50 | | 1,859 | 1,808 | | 0.29 | 0.94 | 2.52 | 19.55 | | |
| Lansing | 80 | 44 | | 1,898 | 1,836 | | 0.18 | 1.26 | 2.60 | 19.03 | | |
| South Central | 82 | 44 | -7 | 1,900 | 1,864 | 1,933 | 0.39 | 1.28 | 2.86 | 19.42 | 14.38 | 3.36 |
| Detroit | 81 | 51 | | 2,118 | 2,052 | | 0.01 | 1.96 | 3.57 | 16.76 | | |
| Flint | 79 | 47 | | 1,944 | 1,930 | | 0.65 | 1.80 | 3.35 | 16.76 | | |
| Romeo | 80 | 49 | | 1,914 | 1,800 | | 0.26 | 1.55 | 3.35 | 20.91 | | |
| Tipton | 80 | 46 | | 1,887 | 1,846 | | 0.22 | 1.05 | 2.86 | 16.74 | | |
| Toledo, OH | 76 | 48 | | 2,184 | 2,042 | | 1.22 | 1.51 | 3.37 | 13.76 | | |
| Southeast | 85 | 46 | -6 | 1,947 | 1,937 | 1,918 | 0.37 | 1.34 | 3.39 | 18.08 | 13.87 | 3.12 |

¹ Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service
 P.O. Box 26248
 Lansing, Michigan 48909-6248
 (517) 324-5300 FAX (517) 324-5299
 E-mail: nass-mi@nass.usda.gov